



**THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, M.D.**  
Director and Chief Medical Officer

**FRED LEAF**  
Chief Operating Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
313 N. Figueroa, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 240-8101

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Fifth District

May 29, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT  
FOR JUVENILE COURT HEALTH SERVICES  
(First District) (3 Votes)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

Approve and instruct the Director of Health Services, or his designee to purchase an automated medication dispensing system (unit dose system), at a cost of \$467,750, for Juvenile Court Health Services, effective upon Board approval.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

In approving this action, the Board is authorizing the Director of Health Services, or his designee, to purchase an automated medication dispensing system for Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS).

In the past, hospitals have been using manual unit dose systems in dispensing medications to the patients. JCHS has found that the juveniles assigned to this system move from hall to camp on a regular basis, impacting the viability of the manual unit dose system ensuring drug security and access to the patients during transfers. JCHS intends to use a form of automation that will allow for the medication information to reside on a network system that would interface with an automated dispensing machine. Therefore, as juveniles move within the JCHS system, the nurse at each location would have the ability to access the medication, in a unit dose form, from the automated dispensing system. A record of the transaction will exist in the JCHS pharmacy network, allowing the pharmacist to review the medication history.

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This request is to comply with the County Equipment Policy that your Board approved on October 16, 2001, which requires Board approval prior to departments' purchasing/financing equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The estimated cost for the equipment is \$467,750. Funding for the purchase of this equipment is included in the Fiscal Year 2003-02 Department of Health Services Proposed Budget.

The equipment will be purchased through the Los Angeles County Capital Asset Leasing (LAC-CAL) program.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

On October 16, 2001, your Board approved the classification categories for fixed assets and new requirements for major fixed asset acquisitions whereby departments will obtain Board approval to purchase or finance equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater prior to submitting their requisitions to Purchasing.

The new system would control pharmaceuticals dispensing and accounting, allow for accurate drug inventory, secure storage, allow for controlled dispensing of medications, and maintain automated record-keeping. The dispensing system would enable monitoring of medication usage and allow order and delivery to improve accuracy and time management of staff who dispense medications. An automated medication dispensing system will assist JCHS in complying with California Code of Regulations, Title 15, and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care accreditation requirements and with Department of Justice requirements. DHS is evaluating the implementation of a similar system in its other facilities.

The reorganization of DHS would not impact the purchase of this equipment because pharmaceuticals dispensing services would still be required for medical services for the patients.

The purchase of this equipment will improve the provision of services to patients.

Attachment A provides additional information.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

Not applicable.

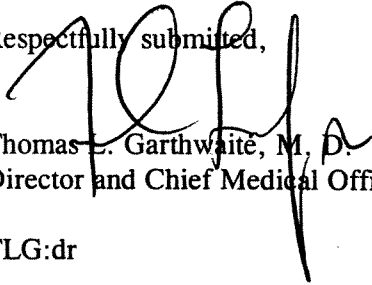
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

The purchase of this equipment will provide greater control of pharmaceuticals and comply with regulatory and accreditation standards and with Department of Justice requirements.

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When approved, this Department requires three signed copies of the Board's action.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D.  
Director and Chief Medical Officer

TLG:dr

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
Auditor-Controller

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**SUMMARY OF EQUIPMENT PURCHASE**

1. Type of Service:

Juvenile Court Health Services intends to purchase an automated medication dispensing system for the Department.

2. Agency Address, Contact Person, and Telephone Number(s):

Not Applicable

3. Term:

Effective on date of Board approval.

4. Financial Information:

The estimated cost for the equipment is \$467,750. Funding for the purchase of this equipment is included in the Fiscal Year 2002-03 DHS Budget.

5. Geographic Area to be Served:

First District.

6. Accountable for Program Monitoring:

Dave Runke, Chief Executive Officer  
LAC+USC Healthcare Network  
Telephone No. (323) 226-6871

7. Approvals:

Public Health:

John F. Schunhoff, Ph.D., Chief

Contracts and Grants Division:

Riley J. Austin, Acting Chief

County Counsel (approval as to form):

Irene Riley, Associate County Counsel

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES**  
**PRELIMINARY LIST OF NEW LAC-CAL EQUIPMENT**

FISCAL YEAR 2002-03  
AS OF MAY 12, 2003

**BUDGET UNIT: JUVENILE COURT HEALTH SERVICES**

REQUEST				ESTIMATED
ITEM #	A or R	QUANTITY	AMOUNT	LEASE PAYMENT
A		1	467,750	\$57,239
TOTAL			<u>\$467,750</u>	<u>\$57,239</u>

Funding to cover the LAC-CAL lease payments is included in the FY 2003-04 DHS Final Changes Budget on Line 3.3-526 (\$0.143 million).